

THE OLD MOULTON MANSION ON HIGHWAY 40 DISAPPEARS; LANDMARK SINCE '77

The old Lee Homestead mansion, a landmark for more than three-quarters of a century, disappeared in just one day recently beneath the onslaught of fire and bulldozer. It made room for future highway construction.

The old Lee Mansion, was built by William Moulton a mile east of Keetley in 1877. It was razed in Aug. 1959. The big 14 room house was famous for its stout construction, its size, and the warmth of its hospitality.

The old house has tremendous history. Wm. Moulton was an Emigrant from England, and he had the King Midas touch—everything he touched prospered. He built the house in 1877 from sandstone brought from Lake Creek near by, and he built it well.

Two front bedrooms, for his wives Mary and Mary Ann, were separated by a big beautiful parlor. There were two big staircases leading to the upper story, where there were many more bed rooms. Two bathrooms, a huge pantry which was almost a refrigerator, and 3 full rooms and a vegetable cellar in the basement. Each wife had her own kitchen.

The floors were cedar, an inch and a half thick. In a recent exploration Mrs. Lee discovered 8 layers of floor covering beneath a rug in one room.

Mr. Moulton set up a complete spread to supply milk, butter, and meat for the boom mining town of Park City. There was a two-story milk-shed, with a pipe-line leading to the dairy room in the house, and another pipe-line leading back to the calf shed for skim milk. There was a big slaughter house, and an ice house, a well inside the barn—the layout was complete beyond imagination for those early days. This house became so famous in fact that the stage coach line from Heber City to Salt Lake City built a side road up against the hill, so that passengers could view both the back and front of the spread.

Mr. Moulton's business in Park City was fabulous. He carried milk in a spring wagon or sleigh, and went over the summit and down through Deer Valley into Park City. Ladies came out with their containers, which were filled with a dipper. He also took orders for delivery tomorrow for mutton, pork or veal, and dairy products.

Upon one occasion it is said that the dauntless old merchant found the road impossible, and transferred his load of m mouth of the Drain Tunnel and transported underground to the Dely West shaft. It was hauled through and into Park City there loaded onto a dray for delivery.

Orson H. Lee, who was a brother of Moulton's first wife, Mary, came as a youth to the ranch to work. Upon the death chased the place from his sister. He continued to run the ranch and as his sons grew up they filed on surrounding la After his death, his sons continued running the ranch. At one time there were four families living in the house, each Bee, Sr. and his three sons and wives. It was a fourteen room house.

This was taken from a newspaper clipping, in the Coalville paper "The Bee" written at the time of the razing of the h home is available from Mrs. Ethel Moulton Watson 140 W. 2nd N. Heber, Utah



Orson Henry Lee



Rachel Ann Jones Lee

